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February 20 1995

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PROGRESS REPORT ON THE CHEMICALLY ENHANCED STEAM STRIPPING TREATABILITY STUDY JKH 001 95

Attention M J Harris

Action None

The purpose of this correspondence is to status the U.S. Department of Energy/Rocky Flats Field Office (DOE/RFFO) on the Chemically Enhanced Steam Stripping (CESS) Treatability Study

On January 25 1995 (95 RF 01036) the Environmental Restoration Program Division (ERPD) of EG&G transmitted the Phase I Interim Report on CESS DOE/RFFO subsequently transmitted the report (95 DOE 08111) to both the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Region VIII (EPA) and the Colorado Department of Public Health & Environment (CDPH&E) on February 10 1995

The results of the study as reported in the Phase I Interim Report indicated that in excess of 70 /of the americium was removed from samples of Operable Unit No 2 (OU 2) soil using a leaching -cheme with the following parameters 20 C pH between 5 4 and 7 4 dithionite with a complexing agent (citric acid NTS EGTA DPTA or EDTA) The results also indicated that plutonium was 75 % removed using a combination of dithionite with NTA at 20 C and a pH of = 5.5 The report was jointly prepared by both EG&G personnel and the researchers at Los Alamos National Laboratory (LANL) Your attention is directed to that report for specific detailed information

Based on the Phase I results ERPD proposed to DOE/RFFO that Phase II be conducted under a different laboratory procedure. That procedure is commonly known as agitated leaching wherein soil is mixed with a lixiviant and the resultant slurry of material is kept suspended for the duration of the required test time. A factorial test design will be used to investigate the effects of contact time solution strength pH and percent solids on the extraction of both plutonium and americium. Two leaching solutions or lixiviants will be investigated citrate-dithoinite and citrate/ascorbate DOE/RFFO subsequently directed (08039) ERPD to proceed with Phase II in this new direction

To date ERPD has notified LANL of the changes for Phase II and equipment has been ordered for the leaching tests. The laboratory work is tentatively scheduled to begin March 1995 dependent upon receipt of the equipment from the Canadian manufacture. Negotiations with LANL for costs and schedule associated with Phase II are underway. It is anticipated that an increase in budget-will be required to complete the altered and increased scope of work

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N I Castaneda February 20 1995 95 RF 01867 Page 2

Please contact W J Roushey of the Treatability Studies/Feasibility Studies Team at extension 6951 or digital page 1711 should you have any questions or comments

J K Hopkins Subject Matter Expert Feasibility Studies Environmental Restoration Program Division EG&G Rocky Flats Inc

WJR pap

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